

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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USDEL SALT

S E C R E T ROME 6687

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS PARM, IT

SUBJECT AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

1. IN COURSE OF JULY 9 CONVERSATION ON OTHER SUBJECTS, MFA
NATO OFFICE CHIEF DA RIN TOLD EMBOFF HE HAD JUST COMPLETED
A STUDY OF THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR
WAR. HIS STUDY CONCLUDED THAT AGREEMENT TO CONSULT PRIOR TO
USING NUCLEAR WEAPONS (ARTICLE 4) SPEARS TO UNDERCUT NATO'S
FLEXIBLE RESPONSE STRATEGY. SPECIFICALLY, IT SEEMED TO CALL
INTO QUESTION US AGREEMENT TO THE 1969 NPG DOCUMENT CONCERNING
INITIAL USE OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH PROVIDED THAT NATO
WOULD DECIDE, DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES PROVAILING AT THE
TIME, THE FORM,CONTENT AND TIMING OF THE MESSAGE TO BE SENT TO
THE ENEMY REGARDING THE ALLIES INTENTION IN INITIATING THE TACTICAL
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USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IN AGREEING TO ARTICLE 4, THE US, DA

RIN SAID, APPEARS TO HAVE PRE-EMPTED THE MULTILATERAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS ENVISIONED IN THE NPG DOCUMENT ON THE MATTER OF SIGNALLING THE ENEMY. FURTHERMORE ARTICLE 4'S OBLIGATION TO CONSULT IGNORES THE ADMONITION IN THE SAME NPG DOCUMENT CONCERNING THE POTENTIAL DANGER TO NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE INHERENT IN THE LOSS OF SURPRISE RESULTING FROM PRE-WARING OR CONSULTATIONS.

2. EMBOFF RESPONDED BY EMPHASIZING THAT WE HAD NO INTENTION OF SEEKING A CHANGE IN THE CURRENT NATO STRATEGY. AS TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF ARTICLE 4 OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, HE NOTED THAT ARTICLE 6 FULLY PROTECTED OUR NATO ALLIES IN THAT IT COMMITTED THE US TO NO OBLIGATIONS THAT WOULD CONFLICT WITH OUR NATO COMMITMENTS. DARIN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS CONCLUSIONS ABOUT ARTICLE 4 MIGHT BE OFF-BASE, BUT ASSERTED THAT THE SITUATION WAS A BEST MURKY. IN ANY EVENT, HE SAID THE EUROPEANS WERE JOINTLY ANALYZING THE AGREEMENT IN BRUSSELS AND HE HAS SENT ALONG HIS THOUGHTS ON THE APPARENT ARTICLE 4-NPG DOCUMENT DICHOTOMY FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. VOLPE

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NNN

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